United Nations A/55/224

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 August 2000

Original: English

Fifty-fifth session

Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

Letter dated 7 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Bangladesh has consistently stressed the need to ensure a sound financial base for the United Nations in general and its peacekeeping operations in particular. In recent times, as peacekeeping activities have increased, that need is being felt even more.

In May 2000, during the discussions of the Fifth Committee at the resumed fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly, my delegation underlined that need. In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, we wish to request the inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, an explanatory memorandum concerning this request is attached (see annex).

(*Signed*) Anwarul Karim **Chowdhury**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

00-59870 (E) 090800

Annex to the letter dated 7 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Explanatory memorandum

In order to make peacekeeping operations more worthwhile in the maintenance of peace and international security, effective financing of the peacekeeping operations is crucial to the role and responsibility of the United Nations, as enshrined in its Charter.

Since the institution of the current arrangements for assessing the scale of contributions to the peacekeeping budget, membership of the United Nations has increased. At the same time, the United Nations peacekeeping operations have also become increasingly complex. The current arrangement, therefore, should be made more transparent, creative, realistic and focused, keeping the best interest of the United Nations in mind.

Given the nature of the subject and issues involved, it would be appropriate if a supplementary item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations" were taken up by the Fifth Committee during the main part of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly.